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The 1967 investigation to examine and assess the Hamline University Library's role in Pamline's educational program and to identify directions for its contributions to this program in the future are summarized in this study. The results of this study shoved that the Hamline University was not meeting the information needs of the faculty and students. Pased on the prediction that informational material will continue to increase in amount and diversity and that user needs will follow the same trend, it was apparent that, if the library continued to operate in the traditional mode, its contribution to the educational program would become progressively less significant. Thus, it was recommended that the library increase both services and resources by adding a switching center service. This service would establish a detailed specification of user information requirements and attempt to satisfy these requirements either through the collection at the Hamline University library or by tapping the collections and services available at other information centers. With these arrangements the library couls provide information support for all aspects of the educational program. The workability of the switching center system was lemonstrated. (Author/14)



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A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION SWITCHING CENTER AT HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

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Submitted as Annual Report under NSF Grant GN-786

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April 1970



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A Feasibility Study for Establishing An Information Switching Center at Hamline University

I. Introduction

A. Background of Previous Descriptive Analysis

In 1967 The Hamline University Library under the sponsorship of the National Science Foundation initiated a study to examine and assess its role in Hamline's educational program and to identify directions for its contributions to this program in the future. In order to provide a complete picture, the study undertook to describe in some detail (1) the library operations and functions including personnel requirements and processing and service costs, (2) the information requirements of the members of the faculty and student body, and (3) the other libraries and information centers used by the Hamline faculty and students. The methods and results of this initial investigation are summarized here. 1

The description of the library was accomplished through (1) structured interviews with key personnel in each of the library's major departments: Acquisitions, Cataloging, Serials, Circulation, and Reference, (2) direct observation of book ordering and processing procedures, and (3) tabulation and analysis of library records. Information obtained from these three sources led to a detailed specification of the steps involved in acquiring, processing, storing and circulating books and periodicals, and a general characterization by academic area of the material held in the collection.

¹Anne W. Schumacher, "A Small College Information System: An Analysis and Recommendations," 1968.

In order to establish a general understanding of user information requirements, open-ended interviews were conducted with a large percentage of the faculty and a number of students representing each academic department of the college. Specifically, these interviews were focused on describing the major activities of the faculty and students which required information support and the ways in which these requirements were satisfied. For the faculty members, these activities included teaching, administrative and committee work, and personal/professional endeavors; for students they included term papers, independent study projects, and general outside reading assignment.

Sources of information (libraries and information centers) remote from the Hamline campus were described through interviews with head librarians and by obtaining pamphlets and other documentation on services and materials. These descriptions were aimed at identifying collection strengths and weaknesses and in delineating the services offered and the procedures and costs associated with obtaining each service.

In general, the results of this study showed that the Hamline library, operating in a traditional mode, was not adequately meeting the information needs of the faculty and students. Through the interviews with the users, it was determined that many of their needs for materials and services were being satisfied by means other than the Hamline library. Both faculty and students found it necessary to go to other libraries to search for and obtain the materials they needed to support the performance of their academic tasks. It was also apparent that if the library continued to operate in the traditional mode, its contribution to the educational program



would become progressively less significant. This conclusion was based on the prediction that the generation of informational material will continue to increase in both amount and diversity and that user needs will follow this trend. With a limited budget, and the requirement to process and store all materials acquired, the library will necessarily fall further and further behind in its attempts to make relevant material available.

Based on these findings, it was recommended that the library undertake to increase both services and resources by adding a switching center service. This service would first work to establish a detailed specification of user information requirements and second, attempt to satisfy these requirements either through the collection at the Hamline library or by tapping the collections and services available at other information centers. External information resources include other college and university libraries, government information centers, civic and social agencies, industrial organizations, and professional societies. Switching center personnel would develop methods for assessing user requirements and would set up procedures and working agreements for obtaining materials and services from other information facilities. Having these arrangements established through the library should be more efficient than having each individual user make his own arrangements. In concept, the library would be in a position to provide information support for all aspects of the educational program thus freeing the faculty and students from the tasks of searching for and obtaining informational materials from sources remote from the Hamline campus.

The major aspects of the switching center service include:

- Information specialists on the library staff would function as a support organization, diagnosing needs of users on a continuing basis and locating appropriate sources for satisfying those needs.



- Information specialists would become more directly and actively involved in the educational process, working out explicit procedures by which to interact with faculty and students to provide support for their activities.
- Formal arrangements would be set up with external sources of informational materials and services corresponding to categories of identified user needs.
- Internally, the center would be geared to process large numbers of information requests, obtain relevant material, disseminate materials to users within specified time frames, obtain feedback from users on adequacy of the material, monitor new demands, and be aware of new materials as they become available.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the proposed system. First, main categories of users are identified and their information-related tasks defined. The information requirements associated with each task are identified and analyzed to derive a responsive set of information services. The materials required are obtained through the switching center either from the library or from relevant external resources. Information specialists on the switching center staff perform additional services on requested materials as needed (e.g., abstracting, data compilations, etc.). The materials are then made available via the library or delivered directly to the user who in either case evaluates their usefulness to his task. This evaluative feedback serves to modify the services provided by the system.

B. Purpose of Current Feasibility Test

The purpose of the present study was to test the feasibility of establishing a switching center service as part of the Hamline University library. The areas of feasibility to be explored included:



- The ability to provide a sufficiently detailed statement of user information requirements to serve as a basis for designing information services.
- The ability to set up cooperative arrangements with a sufficient number of external resources having materials and services relevant to the needs of the system.
- The ability to identify and establish system internal processing procedures required to fulfill different kinds of user requirements.

The results of the feasibility study will serve as a basic input to the proposed development and implementation of an information system for Hamline University.

C. Approach to Feasibility Test

One major focus of the feasibility study was the detailed specification of services to be performed by the switching center system. The approach taken was to derive these service requirements directly from the information needs associated with the major course-related tasks performed by the faculty and students. Task models were developed for five selected courses in which categories of information need (e.g., current awareness) were delineated for each major task (e.g., selection of topics to be included in the course). From these information needs, sets of service characteristics were developed. It was felt that tying the services directly to the users' tasks would enable the system to be more efficient in providing direct support and would facilitate evaluation of system products. The efficiency would result from the fact that each service or each set of materials provided to the user would be provided for a specific



User evaluaproducts system tion of Delivery of products to users system performed on Operations materials should be held) Library collectton (specificaformation retion of what External insources Information switching center ments (content Materials and services need-User informaed to satisfy requirements tion requireand process **User** tasks

1-6



Overview of Switching Center: Concept of Operations

Figure 1

purpose -- the accomplishment of a specific task. Thus, the services included in the system would be specifically useful, not simply of general value. From an evaluation standpoint, each service could be examined in terms of its contribution to the task being performed. It was not expected that the task analytic approach would result in the identification of many new information services; however, it was anticipated that it would provide (1) a basis for determining user demand levels for each service and time constraints on the provision of services, (2) a set of guidelines for efficiently organizing the provision of these services from the standpoint of system internal operations.

A second major focus involved the development of a content structure to aid in organizing the subject areas treated in each course and to facilitate access to the materials included in these subject areas. This content structure was derived from a subject analysis which was designed specifically to reflect the professor's organization of the course content and the terminology he used in referring to the subject matter. This structured orientation to the content should be of value to professors and students in organizing study and in specifying topics for projects and papers.

The third major focus was the characterization of potentially relevant external information resources. This was accomplished through the use of a survey questionnaire mailed to other college and university libraries, industrial organizations, civic agencies, public libraries, and government information centers. The major areas addressed in the questionnaire



included: (1) the collection strengths and weaknesses, (2) the materials and services available, (3) the procedures required to make use of these services, (4) the average turn-around time associated with each service, and (5) the cost for the use of each service. The results of this survey were used to construct an external resource characterization file.

The fourth major area was the specification of the internal system tools and procedures. To provide a clearer definition of what was specifically required, the switching center was operated in an experimental mode; initial development of policies, procedures, and tools proceeded concurrently with the actual determination of real information requirements and the attempts on the part of the system personnel to provide services using the resources of the Hamline collection or other information sources. One of the principal functions of the system personnel during the experimental operation was to translate the content structure derived from the course and the professor's terminology into the organization and terminology used by external information sources.

D. Major Findings and Recommendations

Feasibility of the switching center concept was demonstrated by the following results:

- User needs could be adequately structured to provide a basis for the identification and provision of information services by the system. For each task or activity involved in the teaching process, the information requirements needed could be delineated and the services required to provide the needed information could be specified by means of the task analytic approach.



- Content structures developed for some courses proved useful to both the professor and the students in understanding the content and specifying study topics.
- Of the 195 external information sources identified as relevant to user interest areas, 87% offer services which have potential uses. The major areas of available services included: photoduplication, preparation of bibliographies, circulation of acquisition lists, interlibrary loan, selective dissemination, translation, and referrals.
- As a result of the experimental operation, a number of system tasks were identified and a set of preliminary procedures and tools were developed for the internal operations of the switching center.

Based on these results, it is recommended that the switching center be further developed, evaluated, and implemented at Hamline University. This will involve the operation of the system in a pilot mode with a limited number of users, the generalization of pilot system results to the entire population of users, and the large scale implementation of the system.

E. Organization of the Report

The remainder of this report is divided into 4 major sections. The first two sections describe the methods used and the tools developed to describe user information requirements and the external resources which potentially match these requirements. The third section deals with how the system uses these and other tools in its internal operation and in its provision of services. The fourth section presents the conclusions drawn from the results of the feasibility study.



II. User Information Requirements

A. Introduction

To design an information system which is responsive to the needs of its users requires a complete and detailed specification of (1) the kinds of informational materials and services required by the users and (2) the level of demand and the time constraints associated with each service. One of the major aspects of this study was to examine the feasibility of developing such a description.

At a small liberal arts college the principal function of the professor is teaching and the main activity of the student is attending classes and preparing assignments. Thus, the academic course can be considered as the primary generator of information requirements for the professor in terms of preparing, teaching, and evaluating the course and for the students in terms of outside reading and report preparation.

The initial step in the structuring of requirements, therefore, was the development of descriptive models of the teaching-related tasks performed by a selected group of professors. The process of preparing for and conducting a college course could be analyzed into component sub-tasks; and for each task identified, it was possible to determine the kinds of information materials and types of services which would aid in its performance.

Paralleling this effort was the development of user-specific content structures for some of the selected courses. Subject analyses and



structured lists of subject headings were developed to reflect the professors content perspective, organization, and use of terminology. Further expansion of these tools is planned on the basis of feedback from student experiences with them.

Since student information needs are primarily dictated by the course structure and the professor's expectations of tasks to be accomplished and level of content knowledge to be achieved by the student, student information requirements were identified by discussions with the professor, through observation of the students' tasks as they occurred during the course, and by interviews with selected students following course completion.

B. Selection of Pilot Users

Five faculty members were included in the feasibility test. There were several considerations involved in the selection of the participants and the courses to be supported. These include:

- The professors selected should be interested and motivated. The development of a task analysis and a content analysis requires many hours of hard work for each participant. Success is based on two major factors: (1) the participants' belief that the initial time investment will have a valuable pay-off and (2) the participants' awareness of their need for improved information service.
- The courses selected should be in dynamically changing content areas, present a variety of teaching approaches, and represent different levels of student backgrounds. It was important to choose courses that would maximize the variability of service requirements encountered.
- The topics treated in the courses should be in content areas where information resources can be identified and where efficient service arrangements can be worked out.



The courses selected were (1) Economic Issues and Institutions, (2) The Age of Revolution, (3) Racial and Cultural Minorities, (4) Cell Structure and Function, and (5) Organismic Form and Function. The economics course is offered every term and is primarily for underclassmen. The history course is offered annually primarily for majors. The sociology course also offered annually is open to all students and attracts a very diverse student group. The two biology courses are completely new and being taught for the first time as part of major curriculum revision by that department.

C. Development of Task Analyses

Through a series of interviews, each professor was asked to describe in as much detail as possible the general concept and purpose of the course and the steps he performed to prepare and teach the course. The discussion conducted at the first meeting was general and for the most part unsystematic. From the results of this discussion, first approximation task models were developed which provided a framework for the second round of interviews, etc. At each successive stage new and more detailed model representations were developed and in turn discussed and revised. The end result was a detailed description of the tasks required in the teaching process, the guidelines or considerations involved with each task, and the types of information required to aid in the performance of each task (examples in Appendix A).

Two basic teaching models were identified: the first was based on



the lecture approach to teaching, the second stressed the teaching of processes through student participation. In actual practice elements of each model are likely to be found in any given course. The second approach required a significant amount of interaction between the professor and the students and significantly more information for all than the lecture approach. For the lecture-oriented approach most of the tasks requiring information support were concentrated in the course preparation phase. The major tasks identified include: specifying course objectives, selecting topics to be included in the course, choosing textbooks and supplementary reading, and preparing material for presentation. Many of the information requirements for these tasks can be anticipated in advance. For the process-oriented approach, many of the information-related tasks occur during the conduct of the course and their requirements cannot be anticipated in advance. These include perform laboratory problems (or experiments), and select, develop, interpret, and report on topics. Providing information support to tasks performed during the course requires quick response information services.

It may be helpful at this point to look at an example of a task and see how it can be elaborated to the point of specifying the combinations of system personnel and procedures to perform a specified service in response to a specific information requirement. Figure 2 shows one section of a task model. The model indicates that for the Topic Selection task, Professor A is guided by two major considerations (criteria) and has two primary areas of information requirements. From these stated requirements, a set of information services can be derived and the steps required by the system to perform these services can be specified. The final stage



Figure 2

Racial and Cultural Minorities Course Task Category: Course Preparation

for historical perspective service in requested area Retrospective search Historical context of Topics should be current and socially pervasive current issues order forms, accounting materials received file, Clerks, resource files, Select topic to be included in the course forms, procedures for specific materials may Request documents or ordering, recording, Identify places where Disseminate results. and disseminating Task 2 be obtained. judice and discrimination reprints. Topic should treat basic concepts, theories, and studies concerning pre-Current awareness of events, Awareness of current events and complete list of citacontents, abstracts, etc. people, attitudes, studies, cedure, search strategy key word selection pro-Scan newspapers, maga-Information specialist, zines, journal tables of in prejudice/discriminaprograms, legislation Disseminate results tion, etc. tions. ordering, recording, and Request search, dissemiorder forms, accounting Clerks, resource files, materials received file, tion source file, select current awareness serforms, procedures for From external informanate results to user. source that performs vices in this area. disseminating quired to Per-Requirements: form Service Performing Configura-Information Information tions for Steps Re-Services: Steps: Criteria: Tasks:

ERIC Full Text Provided by ERIC

in the modeling is the determination of the personnel and procedures best suited to the performance of each step. Theoretically, all materials and services provided can be directly tied to one of the tasks being performed by the professor.

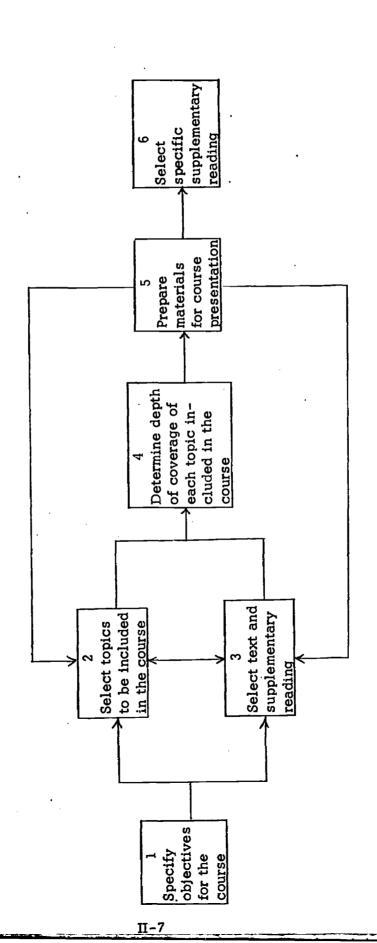
D. Tasks, Criteria, and Information Requirements

1. Course Preparation Tasks

The principal tasks in the course preparation and their relationships to each other are shown in Figure 3. The first task is the specification of objectives for the course, i.e., the determination of the professor's goals for the effect of the course on the student. Three general goals were identified: (1) acquisition of content knowledge, (2) development of skills in methods and techniques, and (3) establishment of appropriate attitudes toward the general subject field. Each professor in the interview sample was concerned with achieving all three goals to some degree; in all cases, however, one of the three goals was emphasized. Three professors were primarily concerned with instructing the students in the methods of the field, one with increasing the students' grasp of the content, and one with development of educated attitudes. For those courses where the emphasis was placed on methods, a substantial amount of student involvement and participation was required (i.e., learning by doing). In the courses where attitude development and content acquisition were of primary concern, the lecture method was the principal means of instruction. Only one of the five professors identified areas of information needed to help in the specification of course objectives (see Table 2). In general, this task involved the development of the professors philosophical



Figure 3 Course Preparation Tasks and Their Interrelationships



orientation towards the course and the subject matter of the field.

The second task in the course preparation phase concerns the selection of topics to be included in the course. Table 1 lists the criteria used by each professor in topic selection. These criteria specify the characteristics which a topic should have to be considered for inclusion in the course. Some examples of such criteria are:

- Topics should treat basic concepts and theories.
- Topics should be current.
- Topics should be broad in scope and have wide influence.
- Topics should provide tools/methods for making generalizations from specific experiences.
- Topics should be characterized as multidimensional, having several branches and subtopics.

The information requirements associated with topic selection are shown in Table 2. These information requirements can be classified in 3 general categories: (1) information concerning student background, level of sophistication and interest, (2) information on department curriculum at Hamline and at other universities teaching similar subjects, and (3) information characterizing the topic areas in the field. Some examples of the third category include: currency, maturity and sphere of influence of each topic considered, theoretical and historical context, underlying relationships in the subject field, and basic issues and problems.

The third task in course preparation is the selection of a textbook and the supplementary reading materials for students. Some of the professors considered this to be two separate tasks with the Supplementary Reading Selection task occurring later in the course preparation (see



Table 1 Criteria

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Table 1 (Cont.) Criteria

Subject Ir Biology 15 . Tc ph	Select Topics to be	Supplementary	Determine Depth of	Prepare Material
		- /		
	Included in the Course	Reading Sources	Coverage for Each Topic	for Course
	Topics should em-	. Text should emphasize		. Current state of subject
ra . T	phasize cell function	cell biology from ex-		matter in rapidly
	rather than cell structure	perimental point of		evolving areas should
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Topics should em-	view		be presented to student
id	phasize general con-	. Text should integrate		. Audio-visual aids
. ວັ	cepts and principles.	lab and lecture sec-		should be used when
	of living things	tions of the course		possible
Ĭ.	Topics should provide	. Text should supply		
toto	tools/methods for making	minimum of basic		
ð	generalizations from	concepts and term-		
S	specific experiences	inology		
Biology 16 To	Topics should emphasize	. Text organization		. Lecture materials and
	plant and animal struc-	should be comparable		laboratory exercises
二	ture and function at the	with course		should be integrated
	organismic level	. Text should include		
ĭ	Topics should include	both plants and		
ଅ	application of materials	animals		
to	to content areas	. Supplementary		
ř.	Laboratory topics should	materials should give		
.ă :	be broad enough to allow	good coverage to		
, is	students to work at	single topics		
'	different levels depend-			
i	ing on their ability			
History . To	Topics should be	. Material complexity		. Audio-visual aids
· U	characterized as multi-	should match with		should be used when
'ט	dimensional, having	student level of		possible
ν ·	several branches and	competence		
S	sub-topics			



Table 2 Information Requirements

!			Select Topics to be	Select Textbook and	Determine Depth of	
		Specify Objectives	Included in the	Supplementary	Coverage for	Prepare Materials
	Subject	for the Course	Course	Sources	Each Topic	for Course
S	Sociology	. Student character-	. Current events in	. Recent publica-	. Availability and	. Specific content
		istics (background)	prejudice, dis-	tions in selected	depth of coverage	material related to
		. Cultural context	crimination, etc.	topic areas	of material per	topics and sub-
		of existing society	. Historical context	. Characteristics of	topic	topics
		. Basic sociologi-	of current issues	available materials:	. Student character-	. Information on
-		cal principles and	-	depth of coverage;	istics: amount of	local groups
		concepts		level of treatment	information on	interested in re-
_					racial issues	ducing social
						tension
		-				. Most often cited
						studies in each
						major topic area
						. Historical context
						of current issues
ш	Economics		. Student character- istics	. Recent publications . Level of sophistica-	. Availability and depth of coverage	. Specific content material related
			. Students' express-	tion of available	of information per	to topics, sub-
			ions of interest	documents cover-	topic	topics
-			in a topic	ing topic	,	
			. Theoretical issues	. Level of sophistica-		
			covered in next	tion of students		
٠			set of courses			
			. Characteristics of			
_			topics: currency,			
			maturity, sphere			
			of influence			
.1				4		
					•	
					-	



Table 2 (Cont.) Information Requirements

(

Determine Depth of Coverage for for Course for Course	•	ional literature references in-	s to be	•	literature for	assignment to	students (on	individual or	class basis)	class basis) . Content material	class basis) . Content material for lab exercises	class basis) . Content material for lab exercises . Preview of audio-	class basis) . Content material for lab exercises . Preview of audio- visual aids	class basis) . Content material for lab exercises . Preview of audiovisual aids . Answers to speci-	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions fied questions Student ability and accomplish-	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment ment Methods for	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment ment Methods for teaching use of	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment ment Methods for teaching use of literature sources	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment ment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teach-	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teaching in Biology Methods for teaching in Biology	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audio- visual aids Answers to speci- fied questions Student ability and accomplish- ment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teach- ing yeneral con- cepts of living	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teach-ing yeneral concepts of living organisms	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teaching yeneral concepts of living organisms Methods for teaching sending yeneral concepts of living organisms Methods for teaching organisms	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teaching yeneral concepts of living organisms Methods for teaching organisms Methods for teaching research tools	class basis) Content material for lab exercises Preview of audiovisual aids Answers to specified questions Student ability and accomplishment Methods for teaching use of literature sources in Biology Methods for teaching yeneral concepts of living organisms Methods for teaching organisms Methods for teaching research tools in Biology
Select Textbook and Determin Supplementary Cover	-	recent publica-	tions on top	covered																									
Included in the St.	-	t dis-		Biology faculty	. Student back-	dround			 _															•					
S)	ior the Course	•					A. M.					·																	
	Stology 15	•	•								-	-										•	•	•	•	•		•	•

11_12



Table 2 (Cont.) Information Requirements

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	ſ		T		-		<u>.</u>							_											ņ					
		Prepare Materials	Tor Course	· Lexts and	general reterence	books covering	content areas in-	cluded in the	course	. General back-	ground materials	in topic areas	where the pro-	fessor has limit-	ed knowledge	. Methods for	teaching re-	search tools in	Biology	. Methods for	teaching use of	literature search	tools	. Original papers	which are specific	to the equipment	and techniques	tc be used in	the laboratory	
•	Determine Depth of	Coverage for	racu robic										•					٠	•				•							
	Select Textbook and	Supplementary	Information on	י דודיסייוון מיייים איייים איייים אייייים אייייים אייייים אייייים אייייים אייייים אייייים אייייים אייייים איייי	published text-	books	. Information on	available single	topic monographs									•	-	-										
	Select Topics to be	Included in the	Decemention of	. Description or	courses in	Biology of	Organisms being	taught at other	universities	. Student back-	ground	. Materials in-	cluded in text-	books	. Adaptive problems	which organisms	are faced with	. Relationships	between struc-	tures, functions,	and environments									•
		specify Objectives	TOI THE COMES	•									-																	
		t e Mi	Biology 16	01 6501010		•																	,							



Table 2 (Cont.)
Information Requirements

		E		Dalamine Denth of	
		Select Topics to be	Topics to be Select Textbook and Determine Depth of	Decermine Depui or	1
	Specify Objectives	Included in the	Supplementary	Coverage for.	Prepare Materials
Subject	for the Course	Course	Sources	Each Topic	for Course
History		. Characteristics	. Level of sophisti-		
		of information	cation of available		
		support mater-	material		
•		ials	. Student character-		
		. Accessibility	istics		
	-	. Depth of cover-			
		age			
		. Currency			
_	-	. Diversity of			•
		themes/per-			•
		spectives			
		. Amount			

Figure 3). The criteria associated with text selection (Table 1) include material organization, recency of publication, topic coverage, and level of sophistication relative to student competence. The major information requirement identified by all 5 professors as relevant to the performance of this task was the need for descriptive material and critical reviews covering the content and level of treatment of textbooks currently available in their respective subject areas (Table 2). For selection of supplementary reading assignments, descriptive information on single topic monographs and articles was required.

The fourth task is the determination of the depth of coverage for each topic selected for inclusion in the course. Only two of the five professors considered this as a separate task. The basic considerations influencing decisions as to depth of coverage were the currency, urgency, and pervasiveness of the topics (Table 1). For each topic considered, information was needed regarding (1) the availability of materials on the topic and (2) the depth at which the topic was treated in the literature (Table 2).

The fifth and final task identified was the preparation of materials to be presented in the course. There are a number of processes involved in preparing a set of lectures, discussions, or laboratory problems (or experiments). Haterials must be selected, read/scanned, summarized, abstracted or extracted, and integrated into a coherent presentation. The major consideration involves the establishment of guidelines for how to most effectively process and utilize the relevant material selected for review (Table 1). Additionally, most of the professors indicated a concern for making use of audio/visual aids where applicable or useful.



The material preparation task generates the major portion of the information requirements. In preparing lecture materials, the professor needs a variety of information on the specific topics to be presented. He needs texts and general reference books, selected articles from the professional literature, audio/visual material, answers to factual questions, and materials on teaching methods (e.g., methods for teaching the use of literature search tools -- see Table 2 for a detailed list).

2. Course Participation Tasks

The information related tasks which occur during the course conduct are, for the most part performed by students. These tasks are related to the accomplishment of class reading assignments, supplementary reading, laboratory problems and experiments, class participation, and term projects and papers. A variety of combinations of these tasks may be required in different classes; not all of them will be present in every class.

An example of all the tasks combined into a single course is shown in Figure 4.

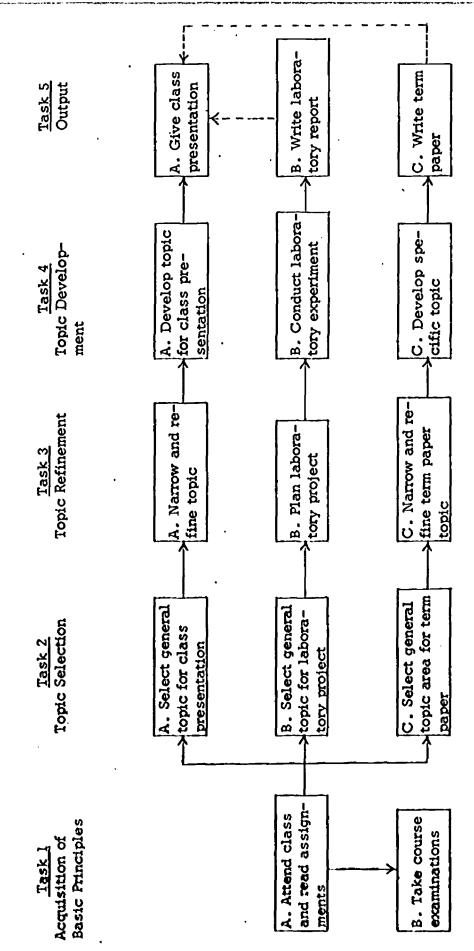
The first task, acquisition of basic principles, is usually supported by the lecture, the textbook, and provision of required materials on reserve in the library. An enterprising student however may well develop interest in identifying and locating relevant material beyond that required by the instructor.

The different types of student project tasks provide a variety of information requirements. Criteria for topic selection and topic refinement by students are similar to those identified by faculty in their course topic selection tasks (Table 1) with two additions: (1) the topic be



Figure 4

Course Participation Tasks and Their Interrelationships





specific enough for the student to develop and handle within the constraints of time and background, (2) some information or raw data on the finalized topic be available or obtainable. In applying these latter criteria the student will usually consult with either or both the professor and the information specialist. The information needed to support the topic selection tasks usually takes the form of general works and review articles.

The next set of tasks, topic development and output, places the greatest information requirement on the switching center system. Depending on the objective of the assignment the service needed may range from minimal guidance in bibliographic searching to extensive searching and provision of material by the information specialist. One particular requirement for certain student projects is the preparation of visual aids in the form of graphics, illustrations, slides, transparencies, or films.

3. Summary

For each of the major tasks identified in course preparation, conduct, and participation, it was possible to delineate categories of informational support. The initial tasks in course preparation which deal with selection processes require information on the characteristics of topics and materials: how current they are, how broad they are, how well developed they are, and how effectively they are organized and presented. The task involving the preparation of materials for course presentation requires the provision of content and methodological information (primary sources) in the topic areas to be presented. Thus, descriptions characterizing the topics are needed first followed by information in the topic areas themselves.



The information-related tasks occurring during course preparation are reading assignments, laboratory problems, class presentations and term projects and papers. The information needed to support these tasks ranges from factual textbook type material to primary source material and includes non-print as well as print material.

The completed task analyses and related information requirements are used by information specialists on the library staff as a structure for providing responsive services. As services are provided, they are evaluated by the professor and students. The task analyses may be updated by the information specialists as new information and service requirements occur. Frequent interaction between the information specialist and the professor and students is required to insure an adequate flow of information requests, feedback, and the provision of satisfactory services.

E. Content Characterization

A content structure was desired to characterize the subject of each course in the experimental sample and to provide system continuity in the event of system personnel change. The tools used in this characterization include: (1) a detailed subject analysis, (2) a structured list of subject headings, and (3) a modified uniterm index system. The subject analysis is constructed to reflect the professor's concept of a given course, the topic areas emphasized, and the relationships perceived. The structured list of subject headings derived from the subject analysis serves to reflect the terminology used by the professor. The third tool, the uniterm index provides a system for classifying the documents obtained in each subject area.



1. Subject Analysis

The subject analysis is developed through a series of in-depth interviews between an information specialist and the professor. The first step in these interviews is the determination of the topics and subtopics included in the course and the areas emphasized. This step is facilitated by the use of materials which the professor has prepared on topic presentations for the course such as (1) course outline or syllabus, (2) reading lists, and (3) tables of contents of textbooks. Through a series of discussions the information specialist and the professor develop a detailed description of each topic. These descriptions reflect the professor's perspective on each topic, the depth of detail with which each will be treated in the course, the way in which the professor relates the topic areas to each other, and the terminology which the professor uses in conjunction with each topic area.

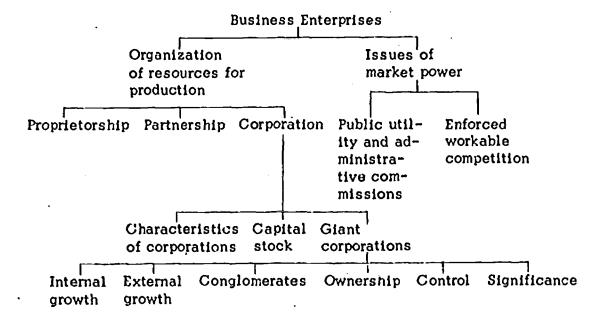
In the case of the history course it was decided to relate the professor's description of the topics to the general subject field as a whole. This was accomplished through a general review of the literature in the subject field focusing on topics included, topics emphasized, and topic relationships established. The results of this review, together with the professor's description, were used to construct a rough classification of the subject, including all the major topics. This preliminary classification attempted to emphasize the topics which the professor emphasized and to relate the topics as he related them. The classification was presented to the professor in a tree diagram or outline form (see Figure 5, Part 1) for review and modification. Several sessions between the information specialist and the professor were required to generate a subject



Figure 5 Development of Content Characterization

Part I. Sample Subject Analysis of Business Enterprises

Tree Diagram



Outline

- 1. Business enterprises
 - A. Organization of resources for production
 - 1. Proprietorship
 - 2. Partnership
 - 3. Corporation
 - a. Characteristics of corporations
 - b. Capital stock
 - c. Giant corporations
 - (1) Internal growth
 - (2) External growth
 - (3) Conglomerates
 - (4) Ownership
 - (5) Control
 - (6) Significance
 - B. Issues of market power
 - 1. Public utilities and administrative commissions
 - 2. Enforced workable competition



analysis which the professor felt was representative of his course and the literature in the field. Further modifications to this analysis will be required after experience with it in the course.

The basic functions of the generated subject analysis include:

- The definition and documentation of topic and terminology relationships which were previously only in the mind of the professor.
- The provision of a framework for interpreting the information requests put to the system as a result of the course.
- The provision of a framework to help the student see each concept in context.
- The provision of a basis for developing the structured list of subject headings.

2. Structured List of Subject Headings

The development of a structured list of subject headings from the completed subject analysis is a mechanical operation. Essentially, this list is an alphabetical arrangement of all the terms used in the classification schedule. After each term is a description which relates it to the original schedule. The function of the list is to guide the student in examining a term to see its various interrelationships to other terms in the field; i.e., it shows those terms which are broader, which are related on the same level, and those which are narrows subordinate.

The procedures followed in developing the structure subject headings are shown in Figure 5, Part II, Steps 1-4. The sip involves the development of a set of 3 X 5 cards; each card ng a term used in the subject analyses. The next step (Step 2) inter on each term card the terms which are immediately superordin ader

Term -- BT) to the term, those which are related on the service.

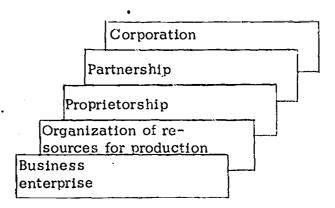


Figure 5 (Cont.) Development of Content Characterization

Part II. Development of Structured List of Subject Headings

Step 1: A note card is made for each term used in the classification schedule from beginning to end.

> Enforced workable competition



Step 2: The immediate surroundings of each term are recorded with B.T., R.T., and N.T. *motations.

Business enterprises

Capital stock

Dustilens Criteral	1000	Odbital Stock		
Business ent	erprises		Corporatio	n
Organization of resources for production	Issues of market power	Characteristics of corporations	Capital stock	Giant corporations
Business enterpr N.T. organization resources production issues of	on of for	Capital stock B.T. corporation R.T. characteristic corporation	stics of ons	

BT - Broader Term RT - Related Term NT - Narrower Term

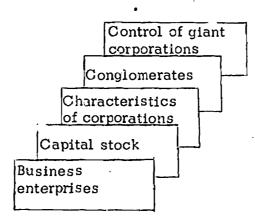
market power



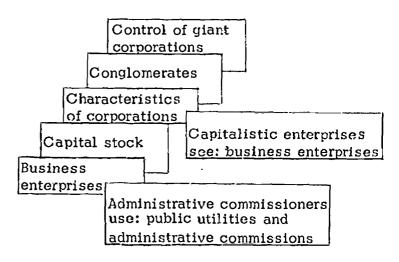
Figure 5 (Cont.) Development of Content Characterization

Step 3: The cards are arranged in alphabetical order.

Significance of giant corps.



Step 4: Cards are added for synonyms, near-synonyms, and terms commonly used in the literature which the professor either omits or to which he ascribes other than the commonly used meaning.



(Related Term -- RT), and those which are immediately subordinate (Narrower Term -- NT). Once this procedure is completed for every term card, the cards are arranged in alphabetical order (Step 3). The final step is to add cards for synonyms, near synonyms, and related torms (Step 4). The cards developed in this step carry "see" and "use" instructions. When the structured list of subject headings is completed in card form it is transferred to standard 8 1/2" X 11" sheets of paper (see Appendix B for sample).

Copies of the structured list of subject headings are made available for use in the professor's office, in the information specialist's office, or in some cases given to each student.

3. Uniterm System

The third basic tool derived from the user-oriented subject analysis is a method of minimal indexing and record keeping. After it is decided a document should be retained for subsequent usage, it is indexed with all relevant terms from the subject heading list. The document identification number is recorded on a uniterm card for each of those descriptions and the document filed in a course file by identification number.

As with other uniterm systems there is a card for each term. Document numbers are recorded on the cards of the terms to which they apply in the column which corresponds to the last digit of the document identification number. See Figure 6. When performing a retrieval operation, the numbers on the cards are compared for each of the terms in the query. The system is different from the standard uniterm system in that subject



Figure 6 Uniterm System

Search Topic: Large Corporations in the U.S.

		T	С	orpor	ation	s	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,	
0	1	2	3 ·	4	5	6	7	8	9
		182					27		
		}							

			Co	onglor	nerat	es	, -		
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		182				36			
						ļ			
		j .			<u> </u>				
1]		1	1	_		

				U.S	Α.	,			
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
240		182	23		15	6 26			

#27
Financing for the
Small Corporation

#182

The Tactics of the Corporate Takeover in U.S.

> Dealing With the European Conglomerate

#36

#240

The Tennessee Valley Authority



headings may consist of more than one word.

4. Uses of Tools

In concept, the content structuring tools discussed in this section are of value to three groups: the professors, the students, and the information specialists. The professor uses the subject analysis to formulate and revise the structure for the course and to relate the various sections of the course. For the student and the information specialist, the subject analysis provides an overview of the course, showing the interrelationships of the topics included and their relative importance.

The second tool, the structured list of subject headings, aids the student in narrowing and defining a topic of interest and in discovering other closely related topics.

The third tool, the uniterm index, is useful to professors, students, and information specialists in determining what materials on a given topic have already been acquired and retained in the system.

System continuity can be provided by the content characterization tools described where they are applicable. In instances where they are not developed, course outlines, syllabi, and tapes of information specialist interviews of faculty can be used as substitutes.



III. External Resources

A. Introduction

Major functions of the information switching center are (1) to identify information resource centers external to Hamline University having materials and services which match the information requirements of Hamline users, and (2) to set us working arrangements with those resource centers which are willing to cooperate. This section of the report describes the survey of external resources and the results obtained from the survey.

B. Identification and Survey of External Resources

Information facilities which appeared to have materials and services matching the topic areas covered in the courses included in the pilot sample were identified through standard directories of information sources.

These directories included descriptions of the subject areas in which the library specializes and the types of services it offers. In addition, a list of local information facilities was obtained. Altogether 195 facilities were identified. These facilities include: college and university libraries, civic organizations and research institutes, government agencies and information centers, public libraries, and industrial and commercial organizations.

Each of the 195 facilities was asked to respond to a one-page questionnaire. This questionnaire was designed to obtain information in the following major areas:



- The content characteristics of the collection: General subject areas collected in depth and special collections held.
- The services which are offered to other libraries: Specific services offered relative to its collection.
- The procedures required to make use of each service: Special forms and procedures to be used.
- The cost associated with each service.
- The turn around time associated with each request for service. If a response was not received within two weeks of mailing the original questionnaire a follow-up questionnaire form was mailed. Of the 195 facilities surveyed, 170 (87%) responded to the questionnaire.

C. Survey Results

The results of the survey are shown in Table 3. Of the 170 respondents, 70% offered at least one service. The principal services identified were photoduplication (69 facilities), sale of microfilm copies (26 facilities), preparation of bibliographies (42 facilities), list of acquisitions (48 facilities), and interlibrary loan of books and other materials (80 facilities). Services offered with less frequency were selective dissemination, translation, and referrals. The turn around time for obtaining these various services ranged from 1 day to 2 weeks.

The average cost for photoduplication was 12 cents a page; for microfilm, 6 cents a frame. Some of the libraries offering these services required cash in advance. Prepared bibliographies and lists of acquisitions were generally treated as library publications; some of these were offered free, others had established costs from one to five dollars. Sixty-five of the 80 facilities offering interlibrary loan services used



Table 3
External Resource Survey Results:
Organizations Providing Services

Other	1		. 1	1	2	
Industrial and Commercial Organizations	က	1	23	က		т
Public Libraries	7	Ŋ	က	2	9	1
Government Agencies	9	8	11	11	6	16
Civic Organizations and Research Institutes	11	8	&	12	19	14
Colleges and Universities	41	14	17	.19	. 41	14
Services	Xeroxing or copying	Sale of Micro- film	Preparation of bibliographies	Lists of acquisitions	Interlibrary loan	Mailing lists



the Standard American Library Association format. Requests for other services in most cases were required in written form, however, no standard format was specified.

A Resource Characterization card file was developed from the survey results. Each card in this file carries a description of one information facility. Figure 7 provides an example of the card format. The file can be used by the information specialists as an aid to selecting the most probable resource to fill a specific request. As new resources are identified they will be added to the file.

D. Other Sources of Local Support

Locally the Hamline University library is participating in a cooperative network with six other small liberal arts college libraries. The current plans of the network call for making materials in each collection quickly available to all faculty and students of the participating institutions. A regular pick up and delivery service among the seven college libraries is currently operating. In addition, a union list of periodicals is under preparation. Longer range plans call for coordinating purchases, developing a centralized storage collection of little used materials and establishing a signle technical processing center for all participating libraries. Additionally, the Hill Reference Library in St. Paul, Minnesota is currently considering a proposal to provide switching center services to local colleges. This would be of significant value to the Hamline switching center in that many requests for materials could be funneled through the Hill Library.



Figure 7 Resource Characterization Card

Side	1	

Resource			
Librarian			
Subject Areas	·		
	Yes/		
Services	No	Time	Cost
Interlibrary Loan			
. Pictures			
. Microfilms			
. Books		<u> i</u>	
Translations			
Bibliographic Search			
Prepared			
Bibliographies			
Duplication			
Microform for Fee			
Mailing List		i	
Selective Dissemination		!	
Referral			
Index			
. Citation Index		i	
Publication List			

Side 2

Services	Procedures	Limitations
Interlibrary Loan		
. Pictures		
. Microfilms		
. Books		
Translations		
Bibliographic Search		
Prepared Bibliographies		
Duplication		
Microform for Fee		
Mailing List		
Accessions List		
Selective Dissemination		
Referral		. <u></u> ::
Index		
. Citation Index		
Publication List		



IV. System Operations and Services

A. Introduction

Theoretically the function of the switching center system is to work as an intermediary between the faculty and students and the information resources available for meeting their requirements. The user task analyses and content characterizations should provide the basis for determining the services to be provided, and the Resource Characterization File should be the principal guide to selecting and tapping relevant sources of information. To insure an efficient linking between the user and the materials, system tasks must be specified and procedures and forms must be developed.

This section of the report describes the results of a limited operation of the system on an experimental basis. The primary functions of this experimental operation were (1) to delineate the information service characterizations and the personnel tasks associated with the provision of the services, (2) to document the procedures associated with these tasks, and (3) to obtain evaluative feedback on the provision of services.

B. Experimental Operation

During the experimental operation of the system full information support was provided to two of the five courses in the pilot sample and partial support was provided to a third course. Support for the remaining two courses is underway in the spring term of 1970. The experimental system was staffed with two information specialists. Their principal functions included:



- The development and documentation of procedures for working with system users to better define their information requirements.
- The development and documentation of internal procedures and forms for providing services to the user.
- The development and documentation of procedures for ing materials from external sources of information.
- The design of forms to obtain feedback from the user as to the adequacy of the material provided by the system.

A substantial portion of the information specialists' time during the experimental operation was devoted to record-keeping tasks. As a means for documenting procedures, information specialists maintained detailed daily diaries.

1. Information Specialist and User Interaction

To establish an adequate flow of information requests, services, and user feedback, between 30 and 40 information specialist/professor contacts were required during the time period in which the course was prepared and taught. Some of these contacts involved extensive face-to-face discussions of specific topic areas and information requests, some were shorter sessions either in person or by telephone concerning a single question or request, some involved the delivery of materials, and some concerned the determination of the adequacy of materials and services provided. Additionally, information specialists attended class sestions to further their understanding of the subject matter and to better comprehend the professor's objectives, teaching methods, and the real problems which develop. Being in the class sessions helps the specialists establish contact with the students taking the course and provides an opportunity for the class members to raise questions and problems about information gathering for general discussion.



1

a. Information requests - During the early stages of support for course preparation activities, the principal contact with the professor took the form of extensive face-to-face interviewing. This allowed the information specialist (1) to become familiar with the specific topics of interest to the professor and their relative priorities, (2) to develop and modify the content characterization tools, (3) to receive, discuss and refine specific information requests, and (4) to obtain feedback on the specific support provided.

Throughout the sessions, the task analysis was used as a basic structuring tool. Each time a specific request was made by the professor, he was asked to describe the basis of his request (i.e., what use he planned to make of the information). In this way, each request was related to a task in the teaching model. If the request related to a task not included in the model, the model was revised accordingly. Each information specialist kept a notebook describing the specific request associated with each information requirement and each task.

Five general types of information requests were received from the professors being supported. These include (1) literature searches (retrospective, current awareness), (2) location of specific citations, (3) acquisition of material from a specific organization, (4) answers to factual questions, and (5) compilation of extracted material on a given topic. The categories of materials specified in these requests were original articles or books, review articles, bibliographies, abstracts, tables of extracted materials, compilations of facts, and various types of audio/visual materials.



Student requests for information generally resulted from course project tasks. Several of the students used the information specialist to help them define their topics and identify and locate materials relevant to their projects. Support took the form of literature searches, verification of specific citations, and delivery of potentially useful items. Many of the materials provided to the professor for course preparation were used by the students in developing their topics and producing their course projects.

b. Evaluative feedback - In the early stages of experimental system operation, the supported professors were asked to describe either verbally or in written form their evaluation of each service provided. This procedure was not particularly effective; first, because there was usually a time lapse between the review or use of specific material and the discussion focused on the evaluation of the material and second, because the evaluative response requested by the information specialist was not sufficiently structured. As a result a Material Evaluation Form was developed (see Figure 8). This form was attached to each piece of material delivered to the professor by the system. The first section of the form is filled out by the information specialist. This section states the topic covered and the task for which the material was provided. The second section of the form requires the professor to indicate whether the material was useful and the task(s) for which it actually was used. If the material was not useful, the form provides a section for indicating the reason. The information obtained from these forms allows the information specialist to adjust the services to better meet the requirements. It shows whether the material was useful for the originally specified task



. . .

Figure 8 Material Evaluation Form

To			Date		Code No.	•		
For Topic or Subtopic	ıbtopic							
For Task								
,	Topic	Text	Preparation for Lecture	Preparation for Lab	Select	Selection of Supplementary Reading Sources	entary	
_					Assigned Reading Lectures	Assigned Reading Lab	Optional Reading Lecture	Optional Reading Lab
Specifically Useful								
Generally Useful								·
Not Useful								
If not useful:	too general	too general too specific	too sophisticated	icated	irrelevant redundant	t t	too old other (specify)	
Useful for:	anoth anoth	another course (please another topic (please s	se specify) e specify)				•	
	I woul	I would like to have a copy Put copies on reserve Other:	a copy reserve					



or for some other task(s) and it points out those characteristics of the material which made it unusable for the course. A similar form has been developed to obtain evaluative information from students.

2. System Internal Forms and Procedures

A set of internal processing forms was developed to document the steps, the cost and the time associated with filling each type of information request. The form designed to characterize a topic search request (Figure 9) includes information about:

- The user task or tasks which are to be supported by the request and the principal user of the resulting material (professor; student).
- The general description of the topic and the key words selected for initiating the search.
- The search strategy employed for identifying relevant items and places for obtaining these items.
- The general requirements specified by the user: time limits, bibliographic form, physical form (xerox, microfilm, etc.).
- The data for evaluation of the search (e.g., time required, number of items identified, percentage of order filled).

Three other request forms are included in the set: (1) location of a specific citation, (2) acquisition of information from a specified organization, and (3) answers to factual questions. These forms vary in minor ways from the form described above (see Appendix B). Each information request form is accompanied by a series of citation cards (Figure 10), each carrying a reference identified in response to the request. Both the information request forms and the citation cards were designed as data collection devices as well as system processing aids. When the system becomes operational, some of the categories of documentation will be omitted.



Figure 9

REQUEST NUMBER_

Course	_			•	•							
Activ		entary suppl	read			tiou	<u> </u>	text select studer topic	it		mater: prepar other	ration
	profess	or			t uden	-	•	copic	BCIC			
Reque	st receiv	eđ		sear	ch in	itiat	eđ		sea:	rch c	omplet	ed
	· ·		•	· .						• .		
	day yr descript:	ion		no	day	yr		· · · · ·	MO	day	yr	
											•	
Kev w	ords sele	, cted f	or se	าใจระ						••		
ney w	oras sere	ceca 1		. a. c.,_					-			
						<u> </u>						
Searci	h strateg	у:										
A. I	dentify i	tems										
						• • • • •						
_												
· · · —			·-									
B. I	dentify r	esourc	:es				· .					_
												
_												
	limits se ographic				ragii	00±0-	•			· ·		_
	full text				r ede	ab	strac			other	· (· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	summary cal form	dostra	d ኬታ	reav	estor		tract					
	micro	ucorre	book	ς ⁻				map			•	٠.
	xerox		_		artic	1e	. ——	pici		. 1 4 3		
				DCT1	-		. ——	othe		clide	•	
	original other		gov othe									
Stati	original other stics for		othe noting	er 1:		# \$100 mm = 1		_	_			
Stati	original other	dred t	othe nation o ide	er i: entify	y rel				Per			order fi 1 week

Figure 10 Citation Card

			. Code	Number	
Citation					
	<u></u>				
Number o	f Resources S	earched			•
Resource	Selected				
Dates:	request received				item dispeminated
	Mo day yr	Mo day yr	No day yr	No day yr	Mo day yr
Search T	ime				
Cost					

The information recorded on each request form covers the steps taken by system personnel to locate and obtain information relevant to the request. If the obtained information is not in the form desired by the professor, information specialists have to perform the additional steps associated with appropriately modifying the material. One example of this is the compilation of extracted material on a specific topic. Documentation of these tasks is included in the daily diaries.

Through an analysis of the data recorded on the request forms and in the diaries of the information specialists, a large number of tasks associated with the experimental system operation were identified. These tasks fall into five major categories:

- Identifying, finding, scanning, and selecting material relevant to each request.
- Locating, ordering, retrieving, delivering, and returning materials.



- Preparing products for distribution to the professor/student.
- Developing files of materials for the course (e.g., theory file, laboratory file, etc.).
- Keeping system records and data collection forms.

The specific tasks included in each of the above categories are shown in Table 4. Although most of these tasks were performed by information specialists during the experimental operation, many of them are clerical in nature. In one instance the professor developed and maintained the file of meterials. Table 4 provides a general allocation of tasks between clerical and professional functions. Based on experience in the pre-system library operation at Hamline, a great deal of each of the professional tasks in the second category in Table 4 can be performed satisfactorily by clerical personnel under specialist training and supervision.

The following description provides an example of the sequence of internal processing steps required to fill a request. In this example, the professor has provided the system with a description of the general topic area. The product he desires is a compilation of extracts on this topic.

- Step 1: A topic search request form is filled out indicating the teaching task associated with the request, the primary user of the material, the general description of the topic, and the characteristics of the roduct desired by the professor.
- <u>Step 2</u>: Some general articles are read on the topic to help the information specialist provide better definition of the topic.
- <u>Step 3:</u> A general sear h strategy is developed and pertinent bibliographic tools selected for use.
- Step 4: Relevant key words/descriptors from the selected bibliographic tools are identified.
- Step 5: A literature search is performed using relevant abstracting journals, bibliographies, tables of contents, etc. (This may be performed at the Hamline library or at another information facility.)



Table 4
System Personnel Tasks

Task Category	Professional Tasks	Clerical Tasks
Interaction with users	. Meetings with professors	 Delivering materials to users
,	and students to establish	
	information requirements and	
	to obtain evaluative feedback	
1	. Attend classes for purposes	
	of subject structuring	
}	. Structuring and organizing professors file	
Identifying, finding	. Reading articles to under-	
scanning, and select-	stand request	
ing materials	. Retrospective literature	
Ing materials	search	
	- at Hamline	
1	- at other local libraries	
	. Current awareness scanning	
į	on a regular basis	
	Review materials for rele-	
	vance and level of sophisti-	
	cation	
	. Review new books	
ţ	. Identify books and journals	
	to be purchased for the	
	library	
	. Identify supplementary	•
	materials to be put on reserve	<u> </u>
Locating, ordering,		. Verify references
retrieving, and return-		· Check location of journals,
ing materials		books, visual aids
		- Check card catalog, shelf
		list, etc.
·		- Check resource character-
1		ization file
1		- Find addresses
		Order materials
	1	- Form or letter
1		- Telephone
		. Retrieve and return materials
1		- Book store
}		- Stacks
1	1	- Acquisitions or cataloging
}		office
	·	- Departmental libraries
. I		- Other local libraries

Table 4 (Cont.)

Task Category	Professional Tasks	Clerical Tasks
Product preparation	ExtractingAbstractingSummarizingCompiling	 Sorting materials received Typing excerpts, abstracts, summaries Xeroxing Collating, trimming, and stapling
File preparation	 Assemble articles into organized topics Develop and update files Assign terms to materials 	. Maintain and update uniterm card file
Record keeping and data collection	 Develop record-keeping forms Modify task charts Develop subject characterizations and uniterm file Fill out information request forms and citation cards Organizing and reviewing card file Fill out data collection forms for system evaluation Record discussions with professors and students Keep a daily diary 	. Add to citation cards information on ordering, receiving, and disseminating material. Fill out data collection forms for system evaluation



- <u>Step 6</u>: A citation card is filled out for each article, book, etc. identified as possibly relevant.
- Step 7: The Hamline library is checked for articles and books identified as relevant to the topic. (If a book or article is not in the Hamline library and is judged to be of definite use, the information specialist will recommend that the library acquire it for the general collection.)
- <u>Step 8</u>: The resource characterization file is checked for potential external sources.
- <u>Step 9</u>: Bibliographic tools, such as the National Union Catalog, Union List of Serials, etc., are searched for specific location of books and articles.
- Step 10: Books (ILL) and articles are ordered. (Pick them up
 or have them sent.)
- <u>Step 11:</u> Received materials are reviewed/scanned for relevance. <u>Unusuable</u> materials are returned or discarded.
- <u>Step 12</u>: If selected articles or bcoks need to be returned, a copy of relevant material is made and collated.
- <u>Step 13:</u> Relevant sections from books and articles may be extracted and compiled.
- Step 14: A final draft of material to be delivered to the professor is typed. An additional copy for retention by the information specialist is made.
- Step 15: A material evaluation sheet is attached and the material is delivered to the professor.

3. Experimental System Results

In support of the three courses, the staff of the switching center have ordered from external sources or obtained from the Hamline library 527 articles and pamphlets and have recommended that the Hamline library acquire 25 books and 13 journals for its permanent collection. In some cases the material received was free in other cases there were page charges for copying. Support was also obtained through interlibrary loan of books from local college libraries (members of the cooperative



program). Approximately 20% of the materials obtained by the switching center in response to user information requirements came from the Hamline collection.

From the materials collected, a number of files organized by major subject headings were created for each course (laboratory file, theory file, etc.). Many of the materials included in these files were first used by the professor for course preparation and later used by the students for outside reading, oral report preparation, laboratory project work, and term paper writing. Additionally, a materials file was developed and located in the library. The items in this file proved extremely useful to several students in developing their term projects. In some instances assigned and optional readings were placed on reserve at the library circulation desk. This was usually done when multiple copics were needed to permit all students to use the material in a given time frame.

During the experimental operation, data were obtained on material costs, search time, number of resources tapped, and turn around time for these resources (a breakdown of this information is shown in Appendix B). The average cost of the materials obtained was 90 cents per item. The search time required to identify a relevant document ranged from 2 minutes to 2 hours with an average time of 20 minutes. Overall 25 resources in addition to the Hamline library were used in support of three courses. For local resources such as the University of Minnesota, materials were obtained within one or two days; the time required by other resources such as government agencies and civic organizations ranged from 1 week to 5 months with an average time of 4 weeks. When outside resources in the Twin Cities were used every effort was made to perform oif-site

tasks with system personnel and minimize the time material was unavailable to the institution's clientele. The exception to this was the use of member libraries of the cooperative organization, CLIC, which libraries have special procedures established to handle outside requests.

At the present time little objective data concerning the usefulness of the materials has been collected as the document evaluation forms were not in use during the major portion of the experimental operation. Subjectively, however, each of the professors has indicated that most of the material obtained for their support had been useful to them or to their students. In addition, the professors felt that the system saved them time and provided them with more material than they would have obtained on their own. It is planned to institute a measurement system to assess effectiveness of those courses supported during the fall of 1970.



IV-14

V. Summary and Conclusions

The purpose of this study was to demonstrate the feasibility of adding a switching center service to the Hamline University library. The three major areas of concern were (1) to describe user information requirements in sufficient detail to specify system services, (2) to set up cooperative arrangements with other information facilities, and (3) to examine and delineate the internal system processing procedures required to link the user with the sources of relevant information. A number of tools were developed during this effort. These include:

- Descriptive models of the course preparation and course conduct activities of the five professors selected for the pilot sample.
- Subject characterizations of the courses based on the professor's perspective, the areas he emphasizes, the topic relationships he establishes, and the terminology he uses.
- Forms for collecting usage data from the professors and students supported.
- An external resource characterization card file describing the collections, services, procedures, costs, and response time associated with each resource identified.
- Information request forms and citation cards used for internal processing and data collecting concerning the system operation.
- Modified uniterm indexes for filing materials obtained by the system.

The development of descriptive teaching task models and subject characterizations served as a means for organizing the professor's ideas and activities relative to the course, as a structure for the provision of responsive information services by the system and as an aid to the information specialist in specifying and filling specific requests. As experimental system operations continue and services are provided, it is hoped



that a generalizable pattern of user tasks -- information requirements
-- information services will be established. Such a pattern will provide
a useful input for the determination of level of demand, frequency of demand,
and time constraints associated with each service. The material evaluation
forms attached to each item disseminated or filed will provide valuable
guidance concerning the adequacy of each service and the ways in which it
should be modified.

The resource characterization card file contains the results of a survey of information sources identified as having material relevant to the users' information needs. Approximately 120 resources are included in this file. Each of these resources provides services in one or more of the following areas: photoduplication, preparation of bibliographies, listing of acquisitions, interlibrary loan, selective dissemination, translation, and referrals. In addition to services, information costs, procedures, and response time are recorded for each resource. This file provides a means of identifying, comparing, and selecting resources to be used in filling service requests.

The information request forms and the citation cards have served two major functions in system documentation. First, they provide a record of each request and the materials obtained in response to that request. Second, they provide evaluative information on procedures followed, time required, and costs incurred.

The uniterm indexes were intended to serve as a quick means of characterizing and filing the materials received by the system. It was thought this indexing method would require a minimum amount of labor and materials,



provide flexibility in the number of terms combined to perform a search, and allow for easy updating. In fact the development and use of the uniterm indexing system has been very time consuming and of limited use.

Observation and evaluation of its use and applicability are continuing to determine whether it should be discontinued.

The system tools provide a basic structure for the continued development and expansion of the experimental system. They serve as a basis for documenting (1) the information requirements of each user of the system (task models and content characterization), (2) the external resources identified and their degree of usefulness, (3) the forms and procedures required to describe the system's operating tasks and to provide responsive information services, and (4) the types of personnel needed to perform each system task. This documentation will insure the system's survivability independent of changes in operating personnel. A new information specialist can quickly adapt to the system. He can study the task models to understand the nature of the professors' tasks to be supported, the content characterizations to understand the perspectives and topical emphases that the professor imposes on the content of the course, and the course files, compiled bibliographies, reserve lists, and card catalog to assess the amount of information support already on hand. In addition, the history of use of various external resource centers will be retained to evaluate their relative effectiveness in fulfilling various service demands. For further continuity major faculty task modelling and topic definition interviews are being recorded for use by the information specialists.

The documentation of the system provides a basis for growth and change.

As content areas develop, emphases shift, and a responsive faculty member



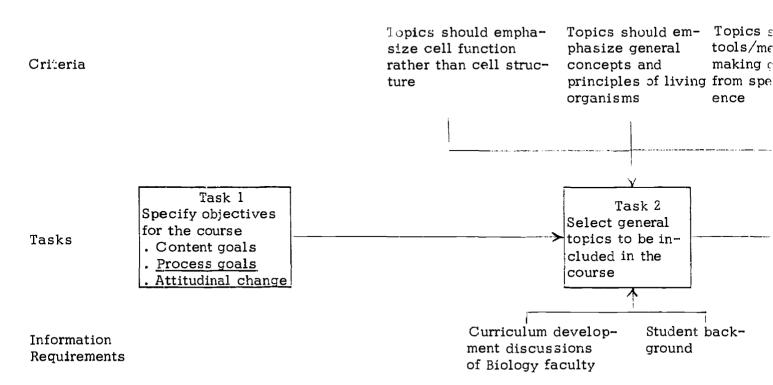
correspondingly shifts the emphases of his course coverage. Faculty turnover also brings about different perspectives on general content and
the subject areas to be emphasized. These differences in perspective and
depth of coverage require revision of the content characterization tools.
These tools, therefore, are continually growing, dynamic, and responsive
to change.

The progress made during this study has demonstrated the workability of the switching center system. At the present time, however, it is impossible to make an objective quantitative evaluation in terms of cost and effectiveness. First, little objective information is available on the usefulness of the system to the users. Subjective reports from the professors and students supported have indicated that the system has saved time and has provided more useful information than they might have obtained on their own. It is interesting to note that some students continue to obtain their own information and do not use either the developed files or the information specialists for assistance. During the next phase of experimental system operation, data will be obtained regarding (1) the direct usefulness of the material provided by the system and (2) the impact of the system services on the course-related tasks performed by professors and students. Second, true system operating costs are not readily available. During the experimental operation, information specialists are required to perform a number of functions which would not be included in fully developed operational systems. They perform all tasks (professional and clerical) associated with the provision of services, they serve as data collectors, and they develop and document system operating procedures. Measurement techniques and tools are currently being



developed to separate the time and cost associated with each of these functions. It is planned to obtain objective cost information for each type of service performed and to evaluate each service in terms of its impact on the users and the educational program.



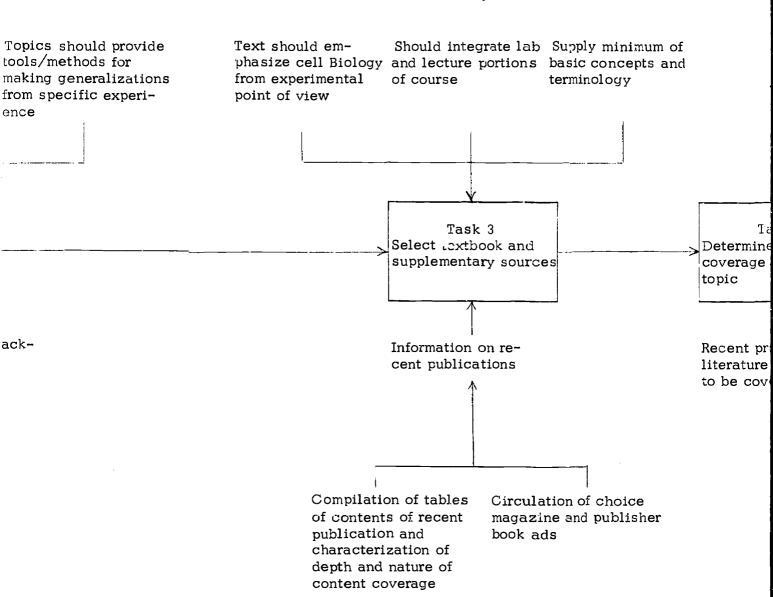


Information Service

Service Characteristics

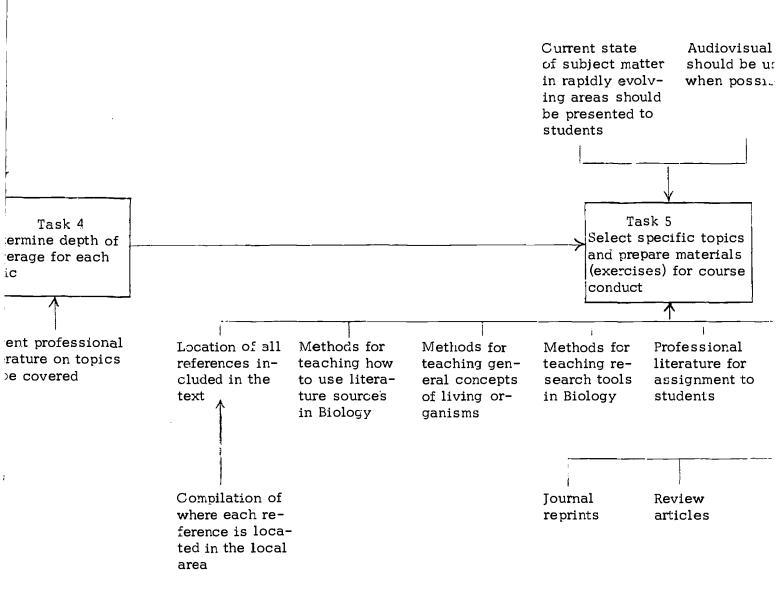


Course Preparation





Biology





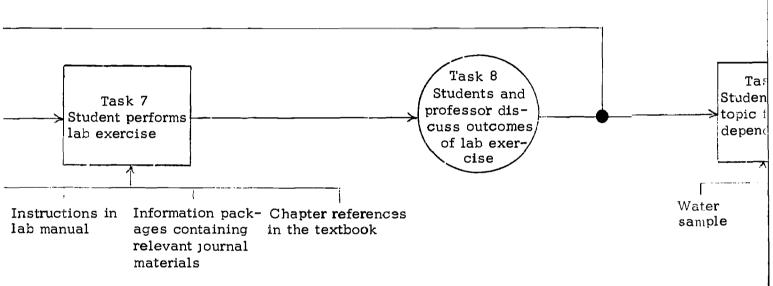
gу Audiovisual aids should be used when possible Task 6 ific topics Deliver orientation materials for course lecture Student ability Instructions pfessional Content mater-Film loops erature for ial on and accomplish- on selected from professor signment to . Growth media ment topics idents (recipes . Cell function . Cell structure view Summaries, Preparation of Review and ticles extracts, etc. information select packages for each experiment



CELL BIOLOGY

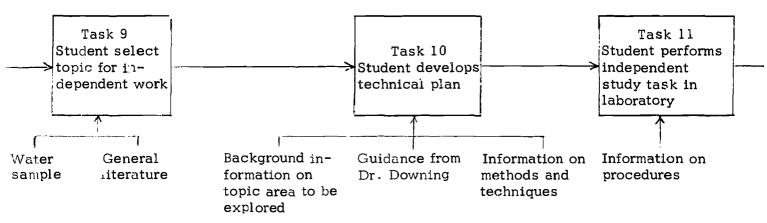
Instr

lab r



Course Conduct

COURSE Teachin A Sample



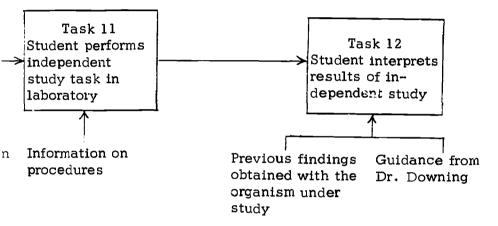


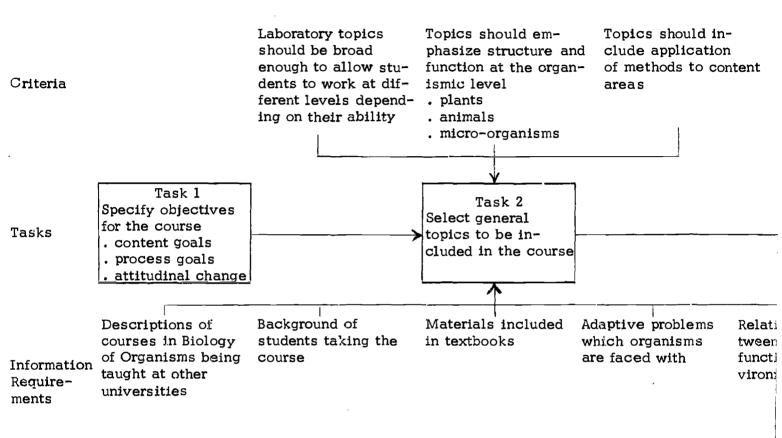
IE

APPENDIX A

COURSE CHARACTERIZATION

Teaching Task Models
A Somple Subject Characterization





Information Services

Service Characteristics



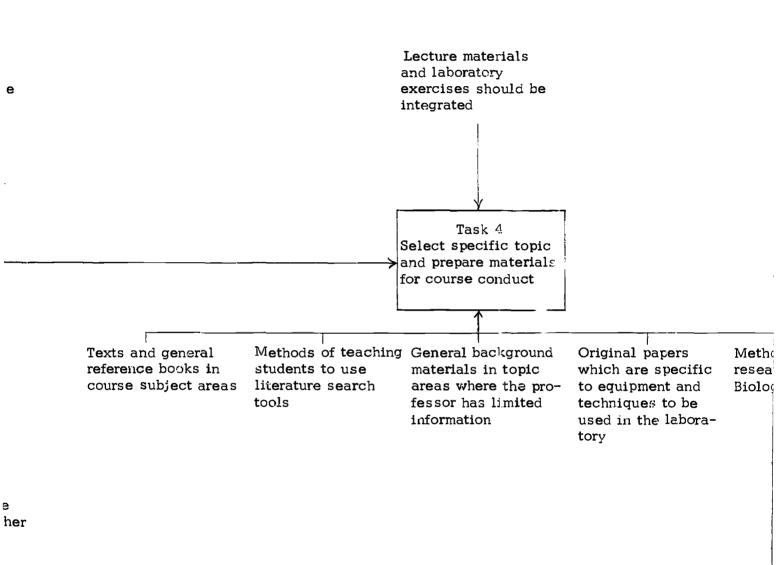
Course Preparation

cf content coverage

Text should include Supplementary Text organization materials should give both plants and should be compatible animals good coverage of single with course nt topics Task 3 Selection of tectbooks and supplementary sources elationships be-Information on Information on published textween structures, available single unctions, and entopic monographs books ironments Compilation of tables of Lists of materials Circulation of Choice contents of recent publibeing used by other Magazine and publisher universities offering book ads cations and characterizaa course in Biology tion of depth and nature

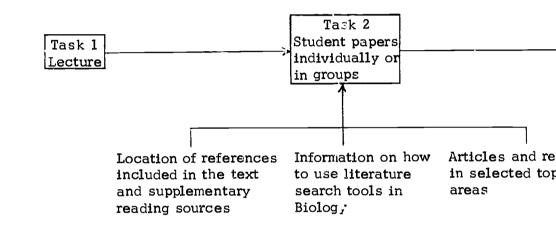
of Organisms





PLOLOGY OF ORGANISMS

Course Conduc

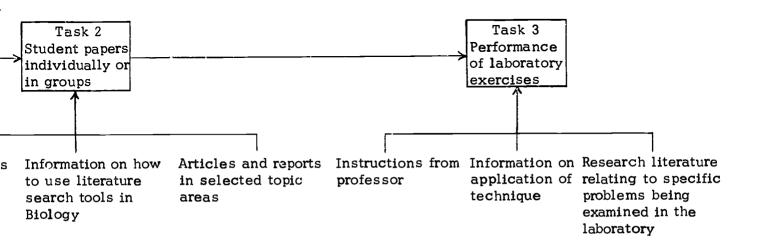


Methods for teaching research tools in Biology

C

ERIC

Course Conduct





2 D

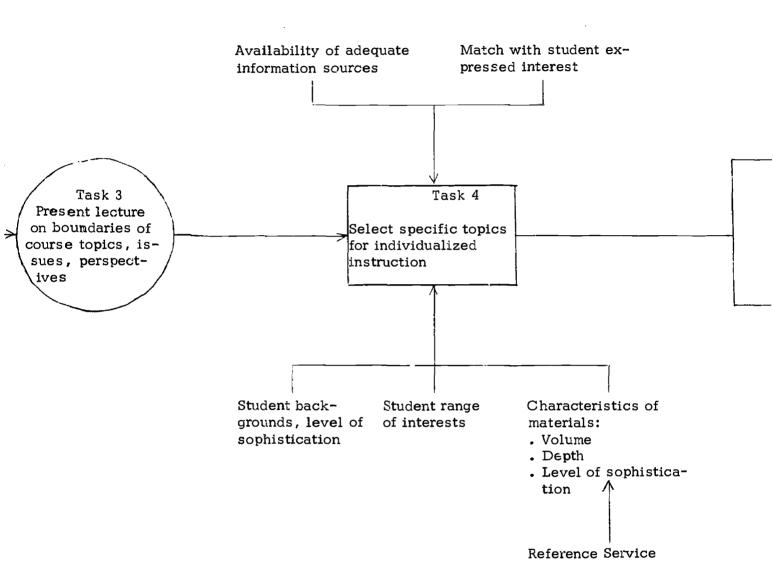
Topics should be characterized as multi-Criteria. dimensional, having several branches and subtopics Task 1 Task 2 Specify objectives for Pre. Select initial topic/ on b course place to start the course cours . Content goals **Tasks** . Process goals sues Attitudinal goals ive Characteristics of information support material . Accessibility Information . Depth of coverage Requirements . Currency . Diversity of themes/ perspectives . Amount Information Reference Service



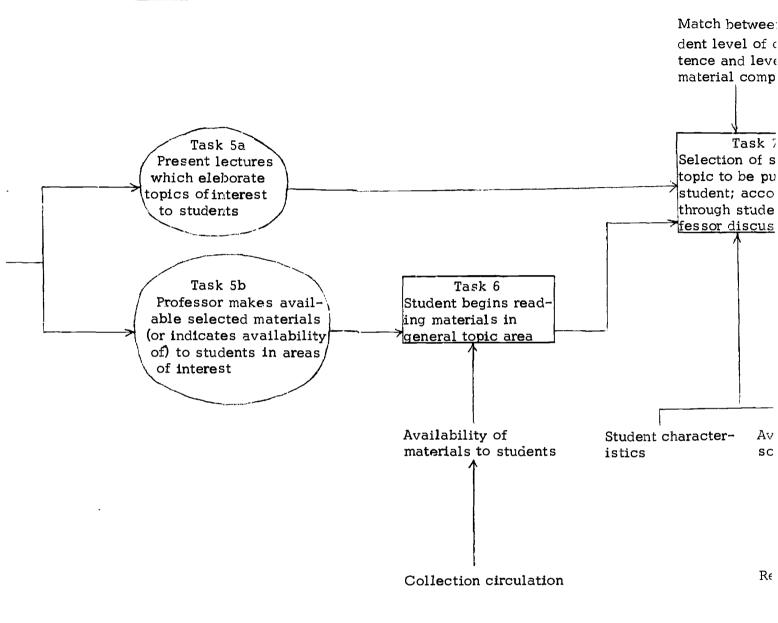
Services

Service

Characteristics



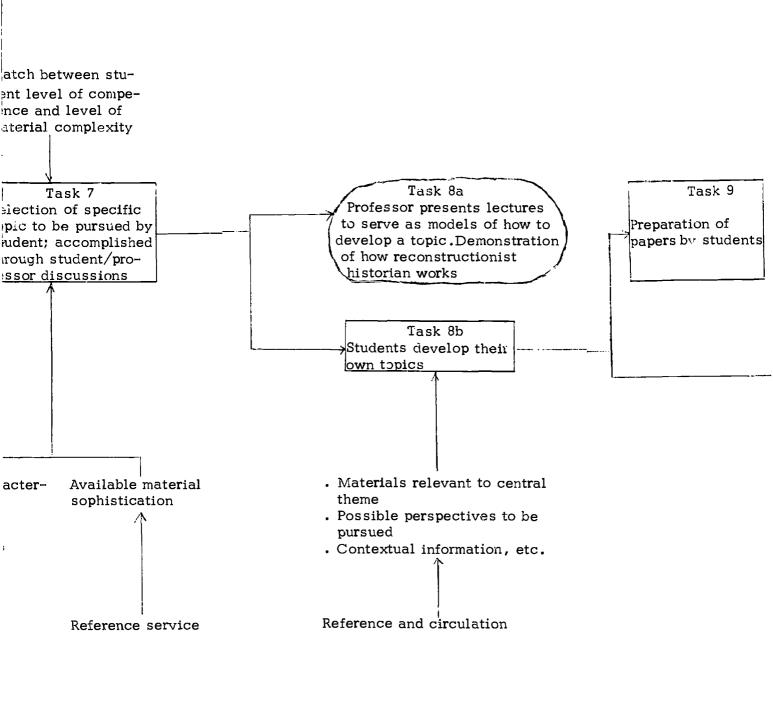
History



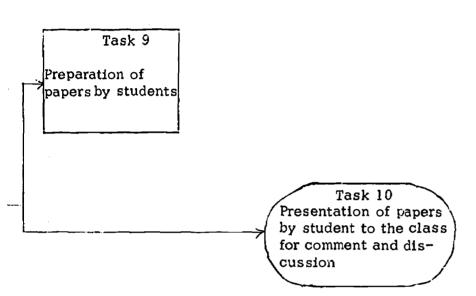


3.B











Criteria

<u>Tasks</u>

Task l Specify objectives for the course . Content goals . Process goals . Attitudinal change

Information Requirements Student Characteristics Cultural context of . White middle class the existing society socio-economic back-

principles and concepts

Basic sociological

ground . Lack of exposure to non-white dominated subcultures

Information Services

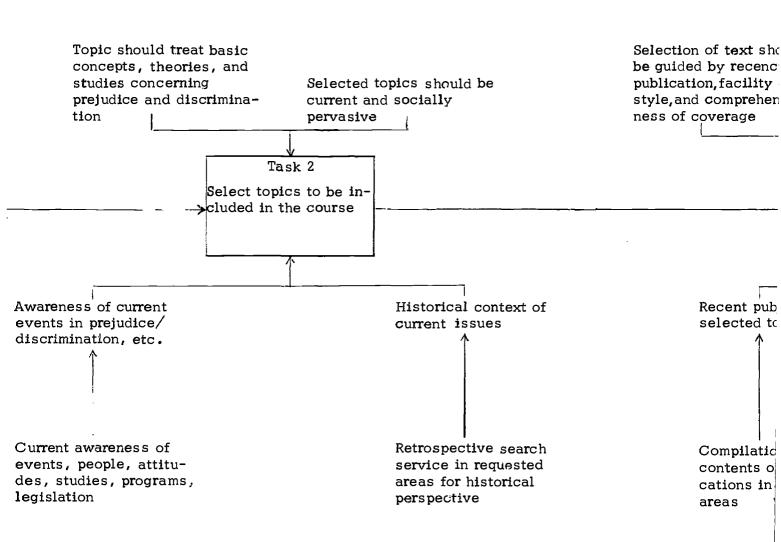
Cun eve: des legi

Awa:

ever disc

<u>Service</u> Characteristics







AA

Sociology

Selection of text should be guided by recency of publication, facility of style, and comprehensiveness of coverage Text should be organized to treat major topics one at a time having all topics treated in each chapter Supplementary material should compensate for text content weaknesses and emphasize recent and critical issues - material should provide good coverage of a narrow topic

Allocate based on vasivene area

Task 3
Select text and supplementary sources

Recent publications in selected topic areas

Compilation of tables of contents of recent publications in selected topic areas

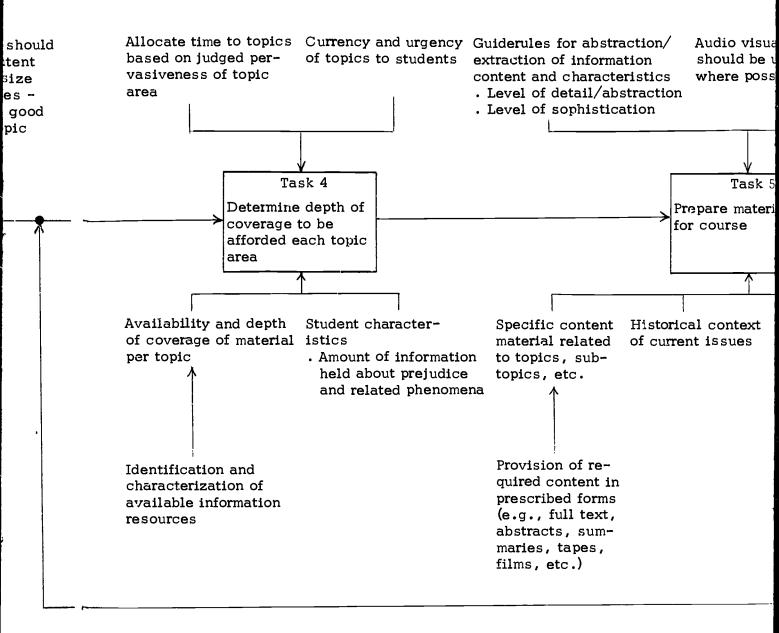
Depth of content coverage, level of treatment of topics in available materials \uparrow

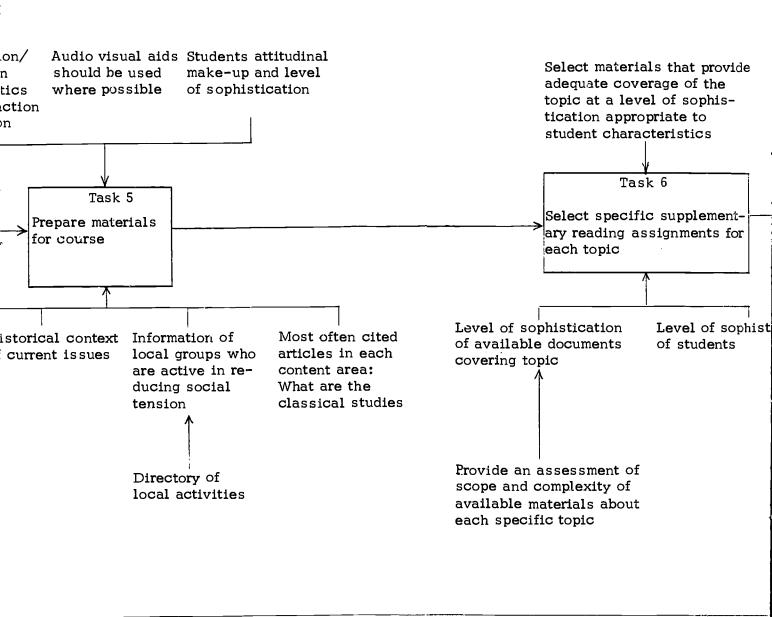
Characterization of available materials re: depth and scope of coverage per topic area

Availabil of covera per topic

Identifica character available resource









A D

Select materials that provide adequate coverage of the topic at a level of sophistication appropriate to student characteristics Task 6 Present lecture Select specific supplementary reading assignments for each topic ophistication Level of sophistication le documents of students topic n assessment of i complexity of materials about cific topic

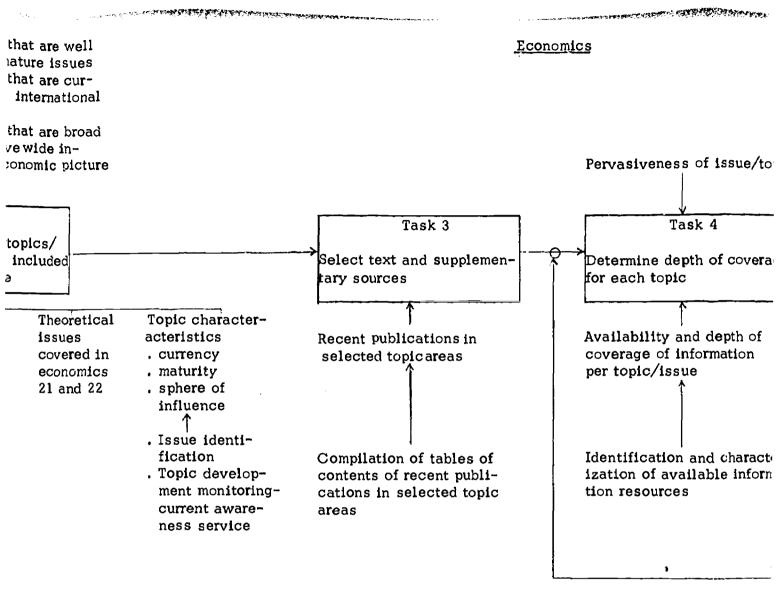


. Select topics that are well developed, mature issues . Select topics that are current in U.S., international Criteria economics . Select topics that are broad in scope, have wide influence on economic pictur Task 2 Task 1 Specify objectives for course Select main topics/ . content goals Tasks issues to be included . process goals in the course attitudinal goals Student express-Student character-Theoretic istics ions of interest issues in topics covered . No background Information economic Requirements in economics -21 and 2 Freshman and Sophomores

<u>Information</u> <u>Services</u>

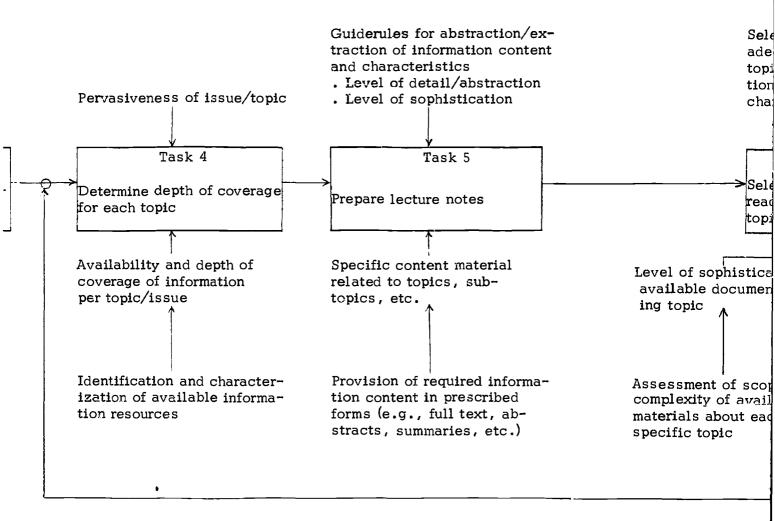
<u>Service</u> <u>Characteristics</u>

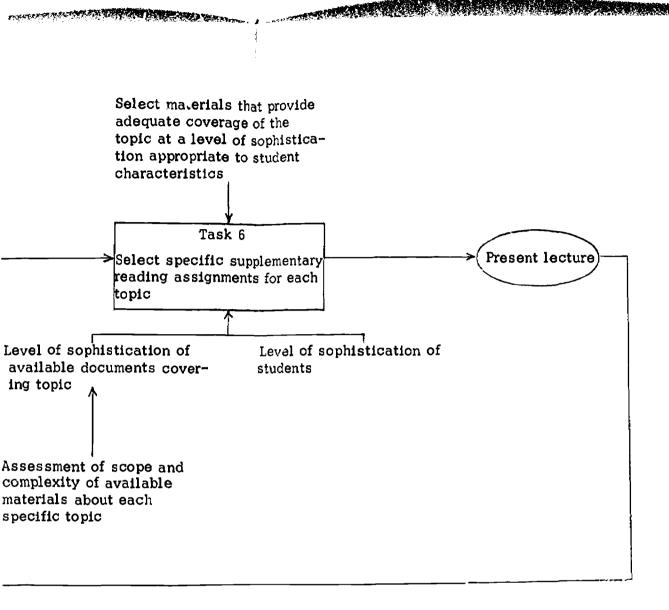






Economics







Sociology Schedule

- I. Bases of social differentiation
 - A. religion
 - B. race
 - 1. biological theory of race
 - 2. sociological theory of race
 - 3. psychological theory of race
 - 4. administrative theory of race
 - 5. religious theory of race
 - C. wealth
 - D. social class
 - 1. European estate system
 - E. caste
 - 1. India
 - 2. U.S. South
 - F. geographic origin
- II. Kinds of majority-minority interaction
 - A. majority attitudes
 - 1. prejudice
 - a. extremism
 - b. bigotry
 - 2. mixed
 - 3. tolerance
 - B. majority actions
 - 1. assimilation
 - a. mode of interaction
 - (1) equalitarian
 - b. majority policy
 - (1) number of groups involved
 - (a) unilateral assimilation (acculturation)
 - Americanization
 - Anglo conformity
 - Europeanization



- (b) bilateral assimilation (integration)*
- (c) multilateral assimilation
 - melting pot
- (2) degree of freedom involved
 - (a) permitted assimilation
 - (b) forced assimilation
 - (c) .egal protection of minorities*

2. discrimination

- a. mode of interaction
 - (1) colonial
 - (2) imperial
 - (3) segregation
 - (a) apartheid
 - (4) reservation
 - (5) quasi-segregation
- b. majority policy
 - (1) pluralism
 - (2) subjugation
 - (3) population transfer (direct, indirect)*
 - (a) immigration, quotas
 - (b) emigration, encouraged
 - (c) forced migration
 - (4) extermination
 - (a) genocido
 - (b) pogroms

III. Causes of prejudice and discrimination

- A. group conflict '
 - 1. immigration
 - 2. political conflict
 - 3. economic conflict
 - (a) Jim Crow*
 - (b) Marxist theory of prejudice*
 - 4. religious conflict
 - 5. social tension



- B. violence
- C. frustration
 - 1. scapegoating
 - 2. targeting
 - 3. displacement of hostility
- D. Freudian theory
- E. cultural factors
 - 1. functional prejudices
 - 2. traditional prejudices
 - 3. stereotypes
 - 4. social distance
 - 5. consciousness of kind/dislike the unlike
 - 6. principle of cumulation
 - (a) vicious circle
 - (b) beneficial cycle
 - (c) self-fulfilling prophecy
 - 7. racial beliefs

IV. Consequences of prejudice and discrimination

- A. on minority groups
 - 1. individuals
 - a. biological
 - (1) life chances
 - (2) health
 - b. social
 - (1) marriage
 - (2) legal rights
 - (3) education
 - (4) employment
 - (5) housing*
 - (6) religious-cults
 - c. psychological
 - (1) universal*
 - (a) mental rigidity*
 - (2) attitude toward felt prejudice
 - (a) acceptance
 - authoritarianism
 - dogmatism



- acquiescence
- anomia
- quilt*
- (b) avoidance (functional alternatives)*
 - migration
 - "passing"*
 - ethnocentrism
 - . Zionism
 - . Black Nationalism
- (c) aggression (hostlity)
 - humor
 - boycott
 - violenco
 - aggressive meekness
 - chauvinism
 - misanthropy
 - displacement of hostility
 - . scapegoating
 - . projection
 - reciprocal prejudice (Boerphobia)
 - withdrawal of etiquette
 - ostentatious display*
 - non-violent resistance
 - . sit-ins
 - freedom rides
 - . marches
- 2. families
 - a. sex-role variations
- 3. large groups
- B. majority group members
 - 1. individual
 - a. psychological
 - (1) prejudiced personality type
 - b. social
 - (1) chauvinism*
 - 2. groups



V. Reducing prejudice and discrimination

- A. changing people
 - 1. conscious
 - a. education
 - (1) formal
 - (2) informal
 - b. legislation
 - c. confrontation
 - d. contention*
 - e. exhortation
 - f. negotiation
 - g. psychotherapy
 - (1) group
 - (2) individual
 - h. political action
 - 2. conscious and unconscious
 - ·a. assimilation
 - 3. unconscious
 - a. race relations cycle*
- B. changing situations
- VI. Role of minorities in U.S. national life
 - A. economic
 - 1. black capitalism
 - B. religious
 - C. political-legal
 - 1. organizations
 - a. CORE
 - b. NAACP
 - c. ACLU
 - D. cultural-intellectual



Structured List of Subject Headings*

direct

acculturation

see: assimilation, unilateral

actions, majority

B.T. majority - minority interaction, kinds of

R.T. attitudes, majority

N.T. assimilation discrimination

Americanization

B.T. assimilation, unilateral

R.T. Anglo conformity Europeanization

Anglo conformity

B.T. assimilation, unilateral

R.T. Americanization Europeanization

apartheid

B.T. segregation

assimilation.

B.T. actions, majority

R.T. discrimination

N.T. interaction, mode of (in assimilation)
policy, majority (in assimilation)

assimilation, bilateral

B.T. groups involved, number of

R.T. assimilation, unilateral assimilation, multilateral

assimilation, forced

B. T. freedom involved, degree of

R.T. assimilation, permitted protection of minotiries, legal

assimilation, multilateral

B.T. groups involved, number of

R.T. assimilation, unilateral assimilation, bilateral

N.T. melting pot

assimilation, permitted

B.T. freedom involved, degree of

R.T. assimilation, forced

N.T. protection of minotiries, legal

assimilation, unilateral

B.T. groups involved, number of

R.T. assimilation, bilateral assimilation, multilateral

N.T. Americanization Anglo conformity Europeanization

attitudes, majority

B.T. majority-minotiry interaction, kinds of

R.T. actions, majority

N.T. prejudice attitudes, mixed tolerance

attitudes, mixed

B.T. attitudes, majority

R.T. prejudice tolerance

bigotry

B.T. prejudice

R.T. extremism

bilateral assimilation

use: assimilation bilateral

colonial

B.T. interaction, mode of (in

discrimination)

R.T. imperial segregation reservation quasi-segregation

degree of freedom involved

use: freedom involved, degree of

direct population transfer

use: population transfer



interaction

discrimination

B.T. actions, majority

R.T. assimilation

N.T. interaction, mode of (in discrimination)
policy, majority (in discrimination)

emigration, encouraged

B.T. population transfer

R.T. immigration quotas migration, forced

encouraged emigration

use: emigration, encouraged

equalitarian

B.T. interaction, mode of (in assimilation)

Europeanization

B.T. assimilation, unilateral

R.T. Americanization Anglo conformity

<u>extermination</u>

B.T. policy, majority (in discrimination)

R.T. pluralism subjugation population transfer

N.T. genocide pogroms

<u>extremism</u>

B.T. prejudice

R.T. bigotry

forced_assimilation_

use: assimilation, forced

forced migration

use: migration, forced

freedom involved, degree of

B.T. policy, majority (in assimilation)

R.T. groups involved, number of

N.T. assimilation, permitted assimilation, forced protection of minorities, legal

genocide

B.T. extermination

R.T. pogroms

groups involved, number of

B.T. policy, majority (in assimilation)

R.T. freedom involved, degree of

N.T. assimilation, unilateral assimilation, bilateral assimilation, multilateral

immigration quotas

B.T. population transfer

R.T. emigration, encouraged migration, forced

imperial

B.T. interaction, mode of (in discrimination)

R.T. colonial segregation reservation quasi-segregation

indirect population transfer

see: population transfer

integration

see: assimilation, bilateral

interaction, mode of (in assimilation)

B.T. assimilation

R.T. policy, majority (in assimilation)

N.T. equalitarian

interaction, mode of (in discrimination)

B.T. discrimination

R.T. policy, majority (in discrimination)

N.T. colonial imperial segregation reservation quasi-segregation



population

kinds of majority-minority interaction

use: majority-minority interaction, kinds of

legal protection of minorities use: protection of minorities, legal

majority actions

use: actions, majority

majority attitudes usė: attitudes, majority

majority-minority interactions, kinds of

R.T. social differentiation, bases of prejudice and discrimination, causes of prejudice and discrimination. consequences prejudice and discrimination, reduction of role of minorities in U.S. national life

N.T. attitudes, majority actions, majority

majority policy .

use: policy, majority

melting pot

B.T. assimilation, multilateral

migration, forced

B.T. population transfer

R.T. emigration, encouraged immigration quotas

mixed attitudes

use: attitudes, mixed

mode of interaction

use: interaction, mode of

multilateral assimilation

use: assimilation, multilateral

number of groups involved

use: groups involved, number of

permitted assimilation

use: assimilation, permitted

<u>pluralism</u>

B.T. policy, majority (in discrimination)

R.T. subjugation population transfer extermination

pogroms

B.T. extermination

R.T. genocide

policy, majority (in assimilation)

B.T. assimilation

R.T. interaction, mode of (in assimilation)

N.T. groups involved, number of freedom involved, degree of

policy, majority (in discrimination)

B.T. discrimination

R.T. interaction, mode of (in discrimination)

N.T. pluralism subjugation population transfer extermination

population transfer

B.T. policy, majority (in discrimination)

R.T. pluralism subjugation extermination

N.T. immigration quotas emigration, encouraged migration, forced



unilateral

prejudice

B.T. attitudes, majority

R.T. attitudes, mixed

N.T. extremism bigotry

protection of minorities, legal

B.T. freedom of involved,

degree of

R.T. assimilation, permitted assimilation, forced

quasi-segregation

B.T. interaction, mode of (in discrimination)

R.T. colonial imperial segregation reservation

reservation

B.T. interaction, mode of (in discrimination)

R.T. colonial imperial segregation quasi-segregation

segregation

B.T. interaction, mode of (in discrimination)

R.T. colonial imperial reservation quasi-segregation

N.T. apartheid

subjugation

B.T. policy, majority (in discrimination)

R.T. pluralism population transfer extermination

tolerance

B.T. attitudes, majority

R.T. prejudice attitudes, mixed

unilateral assimilation
use: assimilation, unilateral



FORM A DOCUMENT REQUEST TOPIC INPUT

APPENDIX B INFORMATION REQUEST FORMS REQUEST NUMBER

	s e											
let:	sup	ic sele	ary re	ading	selec	tion —	86	xt lect				ration
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time required to identify relevant item

number of items ordered number of resources used time required to obtain them

